Mississippi Development Authority PO Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Spann, 601-359-6680

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MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DIVISION HOSTS BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Jackson, Miss. - The Minority Business Enterprise Division (MBED) of the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) will host a Business Networking Breakfast on Thursday, April 18, 2002. The breakfast will be held at Mikhail's Northgate Convention Center at 4330 North State Street in Jackson beginning at 7:30 a.m.

This special networking opportunity targets minority and women business leaders currently working in or seeking to break into the construction industry.

Special guests include:

- Gennie Lacy Jones, Director, Minority Business Enterprise Division
- Alice A. Doss, Assistant District Director, Minority Enterprise Division, U.S. Small Business Administration
- Larry Anderson, Loan Officer, Central Planning Development District
- Johnny Crisler, Project Management Consultant (Yates Construction Company)

"Many new construction opportunities have been created by the Nissan plant, its suppliers and other projects throughout the state of Mississippi," said Gennie Lacy Jones. "Minority and woman-owned businesses realize that the door is open for them to work directly or indirectly with the construction industry and in turn grow their business enterprises. This event is the perfect forum to get the good news out and start to build meaningful partnerships."

The event is also being co-sponsored by Morris Services Group and Yates Construction Company in cooperation with the Minority Business Enterprise Division.

The event is free to the public; however all interested persons are asked to R.S.V.P. by April 17 at 601-372-8911. For more information about the event or other programs, contact MBED at 601-359-3448.